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The Ottoman City between East and West: Aleppo, Izmir, and Istanbul

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patrons in Ottoman officialdom. The interactions among the Ottoman state, Syrian merchants, and European missionaries effectively contributed to the foundation of a modern state system in the territory. As Rogan demonstrates, the merchants cooperated with the state whereas the missionaries presented a challenge that brought forth greater state intervention in the social service realms of education and medicine.

Rogan's study makes a significant contribution to scholarly discussions of Ottoman and Middle Eastern history by pointing out just how effective Ottoman provincial administration could be in the late nineteenth century. Although the Ottoman Empire is often dismissed as the "sick man of Europe" and considered a failure in light of its demise in the Balkans, this book shows such generalizations to be overdrawn. When they had the room to act without interference from the European great powers, the Ottomans proved quite capable of good local governance. Finally, this work also calls for a reconsideration of the notion that Transjordan was purely an artificial creation of the British. The Ottoman administrative legacy made the modern state of Jordan possible.

JONATHAN GRANT
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Eldem, Edhem, Daniel Goffman, and Bruce Masters
The Ottoman City between East and West: Aleppo, Izmir, and Istanbul
New York: Cambridge University Press
244 pp., $59.95, ISBN: 0-521-64304-X
Publication Date: November 1999

Cities are living, evolving entities that both embrace and defy categorization. Just as individuals are unique and yet share a fundamental likeness as human beings, so too do cities feature common, cross-cultural characteristics that are joined by elements distinctive to each urban center. That duality, or nuance, of cities is central to this book, a work intended "to present detailed surveys of one Arab Ottoman city, one Anatolian Ottoman city, and the Ottoman capital not only to suggest their distinctive personalities, but also to insist that there exist a multitude of ways in which to imagine them both as unique sites and as types" (12). Through studies of Aleppo, Izmir, and Istanbul, the authors present a spectrum of Ottoman cities that shatters the restrictive misconception that only one model serves to define the Arab, Ottoman, or Islamic city.

In the book's opening chapter, Bruce Masters, a professor of history at Wesleyan University, asserts that Aleppo benefited from its conquest by the Ottomans. During the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the city flourished as an economic center, and this "desert port" became a vital link, not only in the international silk trade, but also in the empire's internal commerce. The city's prosperity fueled its growth and heightened its diversity. Immigration increased the presence of Eastern Christians, Jews, and Europeans in the urban landscape and added an element of complexity that eventually fostered collaborative networks that cut across ethnic and devotional lines.

Diversity and trade were also qualities characteristic of Ottoman Izmir. In an insightful essay, Daniel Goffman, a professor of history at Ball State University, notes that this Anatolian city rose to prominence during the seventeenth century and became a key trade center as a consequence of the shifting international economy. Commerce, interaction, and a cosmopolitan atmosphere became hallmarks of the city. Yet Izmir never lost its core identity as an urban area with a majority Turkish population.

Istanbul, the Ottoman capital, was a city with a past as great as its future under Turkish rule. Through the innovative technique of historical biography, Edhem Eldem, a history professor at Bogazici University, brings this imperial metropolis to life by describing the city through the eyes of a *dragoman*, or interpreter, in French service and an Armenian *sarraf*, or banker-broker. These accounts bring clarity to the complexity of Ottoman urban society, and provide an appreciation for the intricacies and richness of life that existed.

Through fine scholarship and impeccable writing, the authors present a delightful collection of essays that is justifiably included in the Cambridge series Studies in Islamic Civilization.

JONAS KAUFFELDT
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Lunn, Joe
Memoirs of the Maelstrom: A Senegalese Oral History of the First World War
Portsmouth: Heinemann
264 pp., $65.00 cloth, $25.95 paper
ISBN 0-325-00139-1 cloth
ISBN 0-325-00138-3 paper
Publication Date: October 1999

Joe Lunn, an assistant professor of history at the University of Michigan at Dearborn, earlier published a chapter in a book and an article. Now he has converted his doctoral dissertation (University of Wisconsin at Madison, 1993) into an admirable monograph. His research includes fifteen years of work in oral histories and archives.

In a graceful manner, Lunn synthesizes oral and written sources to present Senegal's World War I involvement and the resulting impact on Senegalese. The 663 notes display balance: Lunn mined the French archives to provide an overview of events and explored oral histories to present a perspective from below. This method fleshes out numerous areas of history.

Chapters are organized chronologically. The first appraises French rule's imprint on pre-1914 Senegal, and Senegalese images of the French; French brutality and Senegalese powerlessness coincided. Chapter 2 emphasizes that France's World War I recruitment in Senegal "was much larger than the European slave trade had ever been"; in the Protectorate the Senegalese equated conscription with a "tax in blood."

Chapter 3 pinpoints the repercussions of France's insatiable need for troops on the Western Front. That enabled Blaise Diagne, Senegal's deputy in the French parliament, to secure passage in 1915–1916 of laws explicitly linking performance of military duty with acquisition of civic rights for persons in Senegal's Four Communes.

Chapters 4 and 5 make compelling points: the perilous journeys of Senegalese troops to France; training for fighting; their primary use as shock troops, resulting in horrendous Senegalese casualties as generals sought to spare French lives by sacrificing African ones; the paradox of egalitarianism in military life; and the fiscal cost to France.

Chapters 6 and 7 display excellent insights. Encounters behind the lines between Senegalese and French soldiers leading to a more humane image of the "other"; soldiers' return to Senegal resulted in thwarted political expression and varying migratory patterns in Senegal and elsewhere in West Africa. The postscript succinctly offers the soldiers' interpretations of the legacy of their wartime service. It underscores the personal dimensions of World War I for Africans.

This book contains fine features. The print pleases, and the eleven black-and-white photographs enliven the text. A three-page glossary, four maps, five figures, seven tables, and a helpful index contribute to first-rate scholarship.

Lunn's monograph merits wide attention. Scholars will benefit from his critical probe. College students may see the filling of a niche in African history. The general public will gain exposure to a major African contribution to the Allied victory in World War I.

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Fleet, Kate
European and Islamic Trade in the Early Ottoman State: The Merchants of Genoa and Turkey
New York: Cambridge University Press
204 pp., $59.95, ISBN 0-521-64221-3
Publication Date: July 1999

This slender volume should find a ready audience among several groups of historians. Ottomanists will appreciate the light it sheds on the early, pre-imperial history of the empire and its commercial ties to Europe. Scholars concerned with premodern Mediter-

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